

MAILS.
From San Francisco:
Nippon Maru, Jan. 2.
For San Francisco:
Wilhelmina, Dec. 20.
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AUSTRIAN ARMY BEATEN, IN FLIGHT, SAYS PETROGRAD WILSON STANDS BY DEMAND FOR FAIR PLAY FOR U. S. SHIPPING

TEUTON MENACE AGAINST RUSSIAN LEFT NOW BROKEN, SAYS RUSSIA STAFF TODAY

DESPATCHES FROM PETROGRAD ASSERT GERMANS IN POLAND REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSS AND AUSTRIANS COMPLETELY DEFEATED IN GALICIA—BERLIN ADMITS NO REVERSES—QUESTION OF TREATMENT OF AMERICAN COMMERCE BECOMES ACUTE—NAVY DEPARTMENT HEARS IT WAS RUSSIAN, NOT AMERICAN CRUISER WHICH THREATENED TO BOMBARD TRIPOLI—PARIS DECLARES STEINBACH INVESTED

[Associated Press Service by Federal Wireless.]

PETROGRAD, Russia, Dec. 29.—The retreat of the Austrian army along the front from Lisko, Sabok, Dukla and Zewigrod has progressed to the point of a precipitate flight of a disorderly force estimated at 175,000 men. The broken country and corridor-like mountain passes forbid parallel pursuit and harassment of the flanks and hamper scouting.

Extreme cold makes it almost impossible to handle aeroplanes, yet Russia has captured 200 officers and 15,000 soldiers, as well as 40 machine guns, in the past nine days, indicating that the Austrians have a feeble rearguard resistance.

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 29.—The latest despatches from Petrograd and Vienna report that the Germans in Poland have been heavily defeated, being repulsed with great losses. The despatches also report that the Austrian army in Galicia has suffered a complete defeat at the hands of the Russian invading hosts.

The combined Austro-German menace against the Russian left wing has thus broken down and the Teuton armies are now retreating hastily through the Carpathian mountains.

It was to thwart this threat against the Russian left that the Russian staff ordered the investment of Oracow lifted and the retreat for 50 miles.

Neither Side Long Able To Keep Ascendancy On The Eastern Front

LONDON, England, Dec. 29.—Another striking change has taken place in the eastern arena, emphasizing the fact that neither side is long able to keep the ascendancy after it wins. Today's news shows that the Teutons are being defeated in two important parts—Poland and Galicia.

Berlin Tells Of Gains In West But Says "Relatively Unimportant"

BERLIN, Germany, Dec. 29.—Official.—"Near Nieuport and southeast of Ypres the Germans have gained some ground in relatively unimportant engagements and west of Apremont have captured one fortified French trench."

Paris Claims St. Georges Occupied And Steinbach, In Alsace, Invested

PARIS, France, Dec. 29.—Official.—"We have occupied St. Georges, around which hard fighting has been taking place for some time."

"West of Apremont we have reconquered some lost trenches after three attacks. In the forest of Argonne we continue to make slight gains."

"In Alsace we have closely invested Steinbach."

Delayed French Despatch Says Hot Fighting Won Success On Sunday

ARRAS, France, Sunday, Dec. 27 (Delayed in transmission).—The French today attacked the Germans on a 12-mile front and captured half a mile of trenches. A violent bombardment preceded the bayonet charge. The actual infantry engagement lasted but 20 minutes.

Not U. S. Cruiser In Tripoli Incident

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 29.—Captain Joseph W. Oman, commanding the U. S. cruiser North Carolina, at Beirut, Asia Minor, has reported to the navy department that it was the Russian cruiser Askold and not the North Carolina which threatened to bombard Tripoli and effect the safe passage of 500 refugees to Alexandria.

Russia Bars Every Alcoholic Drink

PETROGRAD, Russia, Dec. 29.—All alcoholic liquors, including beer and light wines, have been barred throughout Russia, according to an order just issued. This applies even to first-class restaurants and clubs.

YUAN SHIH-KAI WON'T NEED ANY 3RD TERM PLAN

Plan Promulgated to Extend Term of Office of President to Ten Years—and?



Yuan Shih-Kai.

PEKING, China, Dec. 29.—A new election law has just been promulgated making the term of the president ten years and beyond that continuous indefinitely if two-thirds of the senate consider that political conditions warrant an extension.

MAJ. LENIHAN WILL INSPECT OAHU GUARDSMEN

With the target season for the National Guard just over, the citizen-soldiers will now turn their attention to the annual inspection, which will be made this year during the month of March. Orders of the Hawaiian department, issued yesterday, designate Maj. M. J. Lenihan, 2nd Infantry, to inspect companies and detachments of the National Guard of Hawaii on Oahu and 1st Lieut. W. C. Whitener, Infantry, to make the inspection of the companies at Lahaina and Wailuku, Maui, and Hilo, Hawaii.

The inspection this year is of more than usual importance to the guard because the federal appropriation is to be based on attendance at inspection and not on the actual strength of the command, as formerly. One hundred per cent attendance is the slogan that company commanders are adopting, and nothing except physical disability on surgeons' certificate will be accepted as an excuse for absence.

President Declares Britain Must Eventually Pay For Holding Cargoes

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 29.—Discussing the American note to Great Britain insisting upon an early improvement in the treatment of American ships by British warships, President Wilson said today that Great Britain must eventually pay large damages for the unlawful detention of American cargoes. He is firmly convinced that the American position is correct because it is identical with Britain's own position in previous wars.

British Underwriters Reap Nice Profit From War Risk Business

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 29.—The War Risk Insurance Association, organized to handle war insurance, has made a snug profit during the first four months of the war, according to the report just issued. This report shows that the marine losses have been 1.49 per cent of the value of the vessels insured and .94 per cent of the value of the cargoes insured.

CITY'S INCOME FOR 1915 MAY BE INCREASED

Territorial Treasurer Says That Tax Rate and Assessments Likely to be Higher

SITUATION EXPLAINED BY COLONEL MCCARTHY

Rate to be figured on \$84,000,000 valuation; Define Figures Shortly

Though the city and county must begin the new year with the exercise of the strictest economy, as told in the auditor's statement published yesterday, there are hopes that before long the financial way will be brighter.

Indications now are that the new board of supervisors for Honolulu and Oahu, and the boards of Hawaii, Maui and Kauai will have considerably more money at their disposal next year than the counties were given during the year drawing to an end. Territorial Treasurer C. J. McCarthy says that Honolulu had approximately \$150,000 less this year than in 1913, that Hawaii county was cut down about \$90,000 and the other two counties' incomes were reduced in proportion, this being due to the largely reduced tax assessments.

While the tax rate for 1915 has not been determined yet, it is considered fairly certain that it will be raised automatically, while assessments are likely to increase, so that the counties' share may return their incomes to their former level, at least.

"The Hawaii county supervisors are scarcely to be blamed for the straightened finances and empty treasury that has been facing them this year," says the territorial treasurer. "Their budget was prepared on the basis of an income which was expected to be about the same as that of the previous year, but when the assessments fell short that income was actually cut short something like \$90,000. All of which was no fault of the county supervisors."

The reduced tax assessment lopped off about \$92,000 from Oahu county's income in 1913, says the treasurer. In addition the local board was required to lay away \$60,000 in cash reserve fund, under the new law which affects this island alone.

The tax rate situation is explained by Col. McCarthy as follows: The rate was fixed for this year on the basis of the assessed valuations of 1913. The total 1913 assessment for the territory in 1913 was on a valuation of about \$88,000,000. But reduced dividends and business of all kinds, due to the tariff's effect here, brought the actual 1914 assessment down to \$84,000,000. Thus the tax rate did not fit the assessment and the returns were smaller than had been figured on.

This year, however, the rate will be figured on the basis of an \$84,000,000 valuation. The European war and consequent higher prices should raise valuations, however. The reduced 1914 assessment naturally should make the 1915 tax rate higher, and if the assessments of 1915 prove higher, or should go back to the \$88,000,000, the receipts should be very largely increased. Just how great the increase will be cannot be ascertained yet. The tax rate has not been fixed but probably will be determined very shortly.

Taking a large delegation of passengers destined for the windward side of the island of Hawaii, the inter-island steamer Mauna Loa departed at noon today.

INNOCENT HOUSE BILL 'PUTS ONE OVER' ON HAWAII

Appeals From Territorial Supreme Court to U. S. Supreme Court Knocked Out

FUTURE PROCEDURE IS MADE VERY UNCERTAIN

"Writ of Certiorari" Will Be Necessary if Measure Passes Senate in Present Form

Under the title "A Bill to Amend an Act Entitled 'An Act to Codify, Revise and Amend the Laws Relating to the Judiciary' approved March 3, 1911," the house of representatives has "put one over" on Hawaii.

Some years ago, through an innocent-looking and altogether unnoticed amendment to an appropriation bill, appeals to the supreme court of the United States from judgments of the supreme court of the territory of Hawaii, in all cases where more than \$5000 was involved, were permitted.

On December 16 of the present year, under the heading above referred to, another amendment was made, by which appeals of the nature noted are no longer allowed. Should the bill as it passed the house receive the sanction of the senate, persons dissatisfied with judgments of the supreme court of the territory will be compelled to resort to what the lawyers call certiorari.

Put in plain English, this means that the \$5000 clause is entirely wiped out, and appeals in the future will be as a matter of grace rather than of right. Lawyers also say that the granting of writs of certiorari to the supreme court of the United States is a very rare incident, and that the amendment passed by the house will practically nullify the right of appeal to the supreme court of the United States, save where constitutional questions are involved.

The new section of the law reads as follows, the change being shown in the latter half of the paragraph, set in black type:

"Sec. 246. Writs of error and appeals from the final judgments and decrees of the supreme court of the territory of Hawaii and of the supreme court of Porto Rico may be taken and prosecuted to the supreme court of the United States within the same time, in the same manner, under the same regulations, and in the same classes of cases, in which writs of error and appeals from the final judgments and decrees of the highest court of a state in which a decision in the suit could be had, may be taken and prosecuted to the supreme court of the United States under the provisions of section 237; and in all other cases, civil or criminal, in the supreme court of the territory of Hawaii or the supreme court of Porto Rico, it shall be competent for the supreme court of the United States to require by certiorari, upon the petition of any party thereto, that the case be certified to it, after final judgment or decree, for review and determination, with the same power and authority as if taken to the court by appeal or writ of error; but certiorari shall not be allowed in any such case unless the petition therefor is presented to the supreme court of the United States within six months from the date of such judgment or decree."

The change has been made after the words "provisions of section 237."

The house debate on this bill, as shown by the Congressional Record of December 16, does not indicate that Hawaii was given any attention, though Porto Rico is spoken for.

The Bar Association may take up the matter at its banquet tonight. Chief Justice A. G. M. Robertson, on being informed of the bill's passage by the house, said he wondered who was urging the measure. "I think that the provision allowing appeals from Hawaii has worked well on the whole," said the chief justice, "and ought to be retained."

FINANCE COMMITTEE OF CHAMBER NOW AT WORK ON BUDGETS FOR 1915

Steps toward preparing budgets to carry on the work of the Chamber of Commerce and the Hawaii Promotion Committee during the coming year, were taken this morning at a meeting of the members of the finance committee of the chamber. According to the by-laws of the commercial organization, the finance committee must meet each December on the matter of budgets. The finance committee will report at a meeting of the chamber which will be held the second Wednesday in January.

SUGAR.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Sugar: 96 degrees test, 4.031 cents. Previous quotation, 4.02 cents.

PROHIBITION FOR HAWAII MAY BE BROUGHT TO VOTE

Gronna Bill May Be Taken Up and Pushed During Present Session

DEFEAT OF HOBSON RESOLUTION FORESEEN

Nation-wide "Dry" Plan Certain to Fail in House, its Advocates Realized

By C. S. ALBERT.

[Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence.]
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18.—A final effort to establish prohibition in Hawaii is being arranged. It is realized that but little time remains in which to accomplish this end before the present session of Congress expires on March 4. For that reason Senator Gronna and those legislators who think with him that all stimulants should be removed from the mid-Pacific territory are manifesting symptoms of becoming busy.

The peg on which renewed activity looking to eradicating the rum evil from Hawaii is hung originated with the determination of the house rules committee to bring a direct vote on the Hobson resolution amending the Federal Constitution so that prohibition may become nation-wide. It was decided to have this vote taken in the house December 22. A two-thirds being necessary to adopt the resolution in the house its defeat was accepted as a foregone conclusion. Enough votes have been in sight all along to prevent favorable action. The sticking point was that a large number of members desired to duck the actual recording vote. This was made impossible by the action of the rules committee, fixing a date for voting. Hence it became apparent that each and every member who did not seek nation-wide prohibition must step forward and go on record to that effect.

Figuring out that prohibition was lost in the house, and Hawaii would not be included in a nation-wide elimination of drink, those senators who have been agitating prohibition for the territory determined to seize the opportune moment and endeavor to have the Gronna bill, which applies to the territory, taken up and pushed through before adjournment.

It is not believed that the end sought can be achieved. The impression prevails that the Gronna bill cannot be brought to a vote in the senate before March 4.

NEW BOARD, IN CAUCUS, PLANS EXPENDITURES

Improvements Proposed in the Fire, Electric Light and Police Service of City

Substantial improvements to the fire department, the electric light service and the police and fire alarm system are planned by the incoming board of supervisors, all to be installed if possible before the end of 1915. Items for the fire department reported to the caucus last night comprise \$38,000 for additions to the town equipment and 28,000 to be equally divided between the stations to be erected at Manoa and Kalihi, making a total of \$66,000.

For repairs and additions to the alarm system \$10,000 is proposed. There is a new switchboard needed at the station, and in connection with the line will be a device for giving a fire alarm by gong and siren in the congested business section so that all traffic may get out of the way of the fire machines in good time. At night red lights will appear on the siren poles when an alarm is sent out.

The street lighting system is put down for \$18,000, one-third of which is for extension of the power house, one-third for a new waterwheel and one-third for a new generator. With these improvements it is estimated that the present lighting capacity may be increased to a twofold maximum, or enough to provide for all the additional lighting that will be required for a period of years. Just now the capacity has reached the peak where no more lights can be carried.

Although the items for these improvements were not inserted in the appropriation bill last night, having

BARKENTINE HAS NARROW ESCAPE FROM HURRICANE

Irmgard Reaches Honolulu In Dilapidated Condition From Storm at Sea

TRAVELED HUNDREDS OF MILES WITH JURY RIG

Will Await Instructions From San Francisco Owners Before Leaving This Port

Making slow and difficult progress for many weeks across hundreds of miles of Pacific under a jury rig, an experience that sorely tried the endurance of Capt. F. E. Southard, Chief Officer M. J. Ryan, a crew of eight seamen and a Japanese cook, the well-known American barkentine Irmgard, formerly a factor in the island sugar trade, with practically all masts and sails gone, was brought into the harbor this morning, to await instructions from the owners at San Francisco regarding temporary repairs.

Laden with 600 tons of copra and a number of heavy hardwood logs the Irmgard sailed from Levuka, a port in the Fiji islands, October 12, with San Francisco as destination. At the mercy of a series of gales that soon developed into the fury of a hurricane, the Irmgard fared badly with the elements. Captain Southard reporting the loss of foretop, topgallant yards, main top, a sprung mainmast and boom gone, a mizen top carried away and boom wrecked.

Crew Struggled to Save Ship. It was a long and nerve-racking battle that officers and crew waged to save the ship and its cargo from complete destruction. The Irmgard sailed over calm tropical seas for weeks when coming into about 3 degrees north latitude and 163 west longitude, a gale was encountered that caused Captain Southard some anxiety.

Warned by a constantly falling barometer, the little company of mariners found that within 12 hours the barkentine had been plunged in the midst of a south Pacific hurricane of the most destructive type. Sails were blown to ribbons, a crash following indicated the snapping of the upper masts. This loss was accompanied by the carrying away of much gear and rigging.

Forty-eight hours later the fury of the storm had spent itself, leaving the

(Continued on page two)

LEGAL LIGHTS TO CAST ASIDE DULL CARE FOR NIGHT

Bar Association to Enjoy Annual Banquet on Young Roof, With Cabaret Trimmings

Legal contests in days gone by will be recalled and the future of the bench and bar in Hawaii will be thoroughly discussed at the annual banquet of the Bar Association in the Alexander Young hotel tonight.

In addition, according to indications, the program will provide new and novel features of entertainment that promise to make this year's annual dinner an event of extreme merriment and pleasure.

The bill introduced in Washington, D. C., several months ago providing for the abolition of the right to appeal on matters involving sums more than \$5000 from the Hawaii supreme court to the United States supreme court will provide an important subject for discussion tonight.

A cablegram was received this morning from the national capital which stated that the bill had passed the House and is now pending before the Senate for final passage. The cablegram will be read at the dinner tonight. A. G. M. Robertson, chief justice of the supreme court, will act as master of ceremonies and (Hon. Judge Ashford will respond for the bench, as also will Attorney A. S. Humphreys.) City and County Attorney John W. Cathcart will speak for the bar. Several impromptu talks will be made. The dinner will be held on the roof garden and a cabaret performance will be one of the many features on the program.

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(Continued on page three)